

CHRISTIAN REFLECTOR.

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THE USEFULNESS OF THE CLERGY.

The ministers of the gospel are now, and always have been, the strong friends of education. From the earliest history of the Colonies to the present time, this cause has been greatly, if not primarily indebted to them for its success. Almost all the colleges, universities, theological seminaries and incorporated academies of the land, owe their origin to the influence of the ministers of Christ. In illustration and proof of this remark, it will be appropriate to refer to the early history of a few of them. To begin, then, with the nearest:—why is the University at Cambridge called *Harvard University*? Because of a large fund given to it in its infancy by one John Harvard. But who was John Harvard? Was he a lawyer, a merchant, or a retired gentleman? Neither. He was the Puritan minister of Charlestown. And it is a matter of history, that the other Puritan ministers, being themselves learned men, united their influence to sustain the institution so essentially aided by Harvard's timely and valuable donation.

President Quincy, in his recent History of Harvard University, furnishes the following important testimony: "To the Congregational clergy this institution is perhaps more indebted than to any other class of men, for early support, if not for existence. The power which they possessed, they exerted for the College with zeal and affection. They promoted its interests by every instrument of authority, and every legitimate form of influence at their command. It was the frequent topic of their sermons, and the constant object of their prayers. Those of them who had wealth, contributed according to their means in money or in books. Every where, they were its unceasing and unwearied advocates. They designated it 'the school of the prophets,' and identified its success with all the prospects and all the hopes of religion in the province. Vol. 1. p. 44.

What was the origin of Brown University? Benedict states, on the authority of Morgan Edwards, that the plan for the establishment of this ancient seat of learning, originated in the Philadelphia Association, which of course at that day embraced the churches of a much larger extent of country than now. As the business of the Association then, as at the present time, was conducted mainly by the pastors, it follows that they were prominent movers in the affair. It was necessary that some one should be a pioneer, who should undertake the labor essential to having the project fairly started. Backus, in his history of the matter says, 'Mr. James Manning, a graduate at Princeton, and an ordained minister of the gospel, appeared to them a suitable man to lead in the work. Therefore, on a voyage to Halifax, he called at Newport and proposed the affair to a number of Baptist gentlemen, and they liked it well.' The influence of the ministry, then, is at the foundation of Brown University, as well as of Harvard. The College, we are told, was regarded with universal and equal favor by each of the Associations that formed—the Philadelphia, the Charleston, and the Warren. Each of these associations recommended to every church on the continent of America, to take up an annual collection in behalf of this institution. And in 1773, Rev. Mr. Smith, of Haverhill, went on an agency in behalf of the College as far South as Georgia, and raised several thousand pounds. Thus we see, the clergy were the original projectors, sustainers, and agents of Brown University.

It was similar with Yale College, at New Haven.

As early as the beginning of the year 1700, ten individuals were chosen by the ministers and the people to stand as trustees, or undertakers, to found, erect, and govern a college. Who were these ten trustees? were they merchants, physicians, or lawyers, or some of each? Nay. It is stated in Adams' History of New England, that they were 'ten of the principal divines of Connecticut.' These ten clergymen accepted their appointment, entered upon their duties, obtained a charter from the General Assembly of Connecticut, and a grant of money for the encouragement of the infant institution. The Rev. Mr. Pierson, minister of Killingworth, was chosen as the first governor of the College. The institution was at that time located at Saybrook, where it continued for seven years, and at the end of that period was removed to New Haven. To the influence, then, of the clergy of Connecticut, may be traced the origin of Yale College. It is scarcely necessary to add, that the ministers of the gospel have always been among its warmest friends. A similar influence originated the Columbian College, at Washington. Rev. Luther Rice may appropriately be regarded as its father. It has been said that the forming of the New York Baptist Education Society, and of Hamilton Institution, was suggested to the mind of an individual, by reading an address delivered by Rev. Jeromiah Chaplin. This address was delivered at the formation of the Massachusetts Education Society, and published in the Minutes of the Boston Association.

In the origin of Waterville College, originally a Theological Seminary, and of the Institution at Newton, and all the education societies of the land, the influence of the ministers of the gospel is conspicuously seen. They have at all times been regarded as the sincere and earnest friends of education. When the interest of others in this cause has waned, their's has continued to burn with a steady flame. Another fact important to be viewed in this connection is, that from the ranks of the clergy, have been drawn a large proportion of the Presidents and Professors, of these institutions of learning.

If now these universities, colleges, theological institutions, and academies, are bright spots in our character; if they are like as many suns and stars diffusing a glorious radiance round them, or like healthful fountains, sending their refreshing streams in every direction, as no one will deny; then have the ministry, by whom many of these institutions were originated, proved a blessing to the country. If, as Bacon says, "knowledge is power," then have the clergy greatly increased the power of the nation. If general intelligence among the people is an important bulwark in the preservation of our liberties, then have the clergy strengthened that bulwark.

In consequence of their well known interest in the advancement of education, ministers of the gospel have been chosen upon the State Boards of education, and in almost every town in the Commonwealth, upon the school Committees. The people have felt that the interests of education would be safe, if committed to this class of their fellow citizens, and hence very generally they have been chosen as the guardians of the public schools. We shall avail ourselves here of an opinion expressed by Prof. Stowe, of Ohio. This gentleman, several years since, was sent out by the Legislature of Ohio to Europe, to examine their systems of education. On his return he prepared a valuable report, giving the results of his examination. This report was published by the Legislature of Ohio. It was regarded as a document of such importance, that the Legislature of this Commonwealth had it reprinted, and widely circulated under their authority. Prof. Stowe, in

an address, said: "For the eleven years I have been in Ohio I have labored very earnestly in the cause of common schools, a cause immensely popular there, and which, if any, it might seem could be made to go without the help of religion; but my experience has taught me to despair of establishing with any permanency, even a good district school, where there is not a good church and an intelligent ministry to watch over and sustain it."

WHY THEY LEAVE THE CHURCH.

MESSRS. EDITORS.—I noticed an article in your second number, headed, "Belonging to a Church," the contents of which have for some time greatly exercised my mind. The subject is of vast importance to the friends of Zion. It cannot fail to produce a keen sensation in the hearts of those who are toiling in the glorious cause of their Redeemer, to behold some who engaged with them in the Christian warfare with good talents for usefulness, and who united with the same church, and are, besides, their natural relatives, absenting themselves repeatedly from the house and ordinances of the Lord. Their voices were once heard in the praying circle, and in the conference meeting, contending earnestly for the advancement of the cause of Christ. But now they are not only silent upon divine subjects, but are making applications to have their names erased from the church book, without any specific reasons. But the sequel soon shows they wish to be free from the restraints of a Christian profession, that they may better indulge the propensities of a carnal heart. It cannot fail to make the heart of the Christian have with painful emotion on beholding this triumph of Satan and his hellish devices over the professing people of God. O, how solemn the thought, that the church, to all appearance, has in some respect been reduced to a level with the benevolent societies of the age in which we live. That this ought not to be, is evident from the word of God. Upon the church, under the blessing of its great Head, depends almost every thing that conduces to the happiness of mankind. It is denominated by Christ, the salt of the earth, the light of the world, a city set on a hill which cannot be hid—the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of truth. She is now, and has been in all ages of the world, beset by every means to destroy her, that men or devils could devise. And when, at times, the feeble flock of Christ were to all appearance, nearly overpowered, and perhaps, while the few devout souls were praying for deliverance from the outward foes, what must have been their feeling in these trying seasons, to have it announced to them, that some within the pale of the church were deserting their ranks, and some betraying Judases, perhaps, near at hand. Amidst all these afflictions it would seem that they must suspend every effort to save the church from overwhelming ruin. But in the hour of deepest distress a light flashes across their path; the words above directed to them, that some within the pale of the church were deserting their ranks, and some betraying Judases, perhaps, near at hand. Amidst all these afflictions it would seem that they must suspend every effort to save the church from overwhelming ruin. 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Washington.

Washington, Jan. 24th, 1845.

MESSRS. EDITORS.—Miscellaneous business has so occupied the House, the present week, that the great question has been suffered to rest. On Monday, the funeral services of the Hon. William Taylor, member of Congress from Virginia, were attended in the Hall of the House of Representatives. A discourse was delivered by Rev. Wm. Tustin, Chaplain of the Senate. The attendance was very numerous, embracing both Houses of Congress with their officers and attendants, the President of the United States, his Cabinet, the officers of the army and navy, General Scott and his aids, the Judges of the Supreme Court, many of the foreign ministers, and distinguished strangers and citizens. The Virginia delegation acted as mourners. After the discourse, the corpse was followed by a large procession to the congressional burying ground. The death of the deceased was sudden and unexpected. He was much esteemed in private life, and has left a widow, and an extensive family circle to mourn his departure.

Since Monday the House has been engaged in the Florida Election case. The debate has been very spirited, and some party feeling evinced. Mr. Cabell the sitting member, who obtained the Governor's commission on the person elected, is a Whig. The contestant, Mr. Brockenbrough, is of the opposite party in politics. The case was brought to a close this afternoon at 4 o'clock, and Mr. Cabell was ousted of his seat by a vote of 90 to 84.

The Senate during the week, on two occasions, incidentally ran upon the Oregon Question. Indeed so great is the excitement in both Houses upon the matter, that few subjects can be troubled without Oregon being drawn into debate. The Senate are maturing and passing a bill for building 10 war steamers, and appropriating six millions for that purpose. The move evidently contemplates the probability of war.

I have just learned that the President, has to day received official despatches from Mexico, stating that the Revolution anticipated, has been completely successful. And the existing government has been overthrown by the anti-American and anti-Texas party—that Gen. Parades, at the head of a large army has taken possession of the city of Mexico, without the effusion of blood—that the gates were thrown open to him on his approach, and that Santa Anna was expected shortly to be recalled.

Should these news prove true, it admonishes us that we are not yet through with the Texas inquiry. The new government refuse to receive our Minister, Mr. Slidell. What gives great importance to this news just now, is the critical state of our relations with Great Britain, and the influence those relations are thought to have upon this movement in Mexico. Their is, beyond a doubt, an understanding between Great Britain and Mexico.

This nation of ours is like to have her hands full. With England frowning upon us about Oregon, Mexico preparing to fight us for stealing her province, the enlightened nations of Europe, indignant at our swaggering tone, and the finger of the civilized world pointing at us for our slavery, our position is by no means enviable.

Mr. Giddings, of Ohio, who is the great anti-slavery champion in Congress, yesterday called the attention of the House to several articles in the newspapers, and some infamous hand-bills caricaturing him for his remarks on Texas and war. He vindicated his course with great force and ability. I regret to see that 'The New York Observer' is one of the papers, which is condemning his course. Mr. G. is the last man that should be reviled by a religious press. He possesses some traits of character, which members of Congress are rarely blessed with. He is honest, fearless, conscientious, and religious. His whole soul is enlisted in the cause of freedom.

Mr. Buchanan gave a public party last night, at one of the saloons in this city, the expense of which, it is thought, are two thousand dollars!

Yours, &c.

General Intelligence.

ARRIVAL OF THE HIBERNIA.

TWENTY-FOUR DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

The steamship Hibernia, Capt. Ryrie, reached her berth before 9 o'clock, on Friday morning. She had a long and very rough passage of eighteen and a half days. Before reaching Halifax, she was obliged to lay-to 48 hours in a violent snow storm, with the thermometer 10 degrees below zero, having taken no observation of the sun for eight days. On clearing up, Capt. Ryrie found himself in Halifax harbour. The Hibernia remained Halifax 14 hours. Capt. Ryrie confirms the melancholy news of the loss of eight vessels and their entire crews in the St. Lawrence. The steamship Cambria arrived out on the afternoon of the 16th ult., having made her passage in eleven days. The Massachusetts arrived at Liverpool in 20 days from New York, having used her steam power only forty hours. She was advertised to leave Liverpool on the 15th inst. The Briton reached Liverpool in twelve and a half days from Boston. We have endeavored to give a pretty full view of the spirit of the English press on the subject of most special interest to the U. States—the reception of the President's Message. The Message reached Liverpool on the 22d of December, in the steamship Hibernia, Capt. Ryrie, on the 30th of December, by a short speech from the throne. The President's Message reached Paris on the evening of the 23d of December. It does not appear to have created much excitement. The President is somewhat severely handled by some of the public journals.—Traveller.

LEGISLATIVE.

In the Senate, on Tuesday, Jan. 20th, the Committee on Manufactures reported the following acts of incorporation: Holysko Manufacturing Co., Suffolk Sugar Refining Co., and New Bedford Cordage Co. The Naumkeag Steam Manufacturing Co. had leave to extend their capital stock. Various petitions were presented and referred. At 10 o'clock the two branches went into convention for the purpose of qualifying the two councillors present. After the return from the convention, in the House, the resolve authorizing the Adjutant General to sell certain lands in the towns of Barrs and Munson was read a second time and passed. A large number of petitions were presented and referred. On motion of Mr. Erie, of Worcester, an order was adopted regulating the investment of the funds of savings institutions. The hour for Convention having arrived, the Senate came in. In Convention, Messrs. Charles Russell and Daniel N. Dewey, councillors elect, appeared, and were qualified. The two branches then separated.

In the Senate, on Wednesday, orders of notice, were reported and adopted of the petition of R. M. N. Smith, and others, the Vermont and Massachusetts Rail Road Co. and Jeremiah Tucker, and others. Acts of incorporation of the Bay State Mills, and Atlantic Cotton Mills, were reported. The Lowell Manufacturing Co. had leave to increase their capital stock. The ship Lotos of Salem, destroyed by fire.—The ship Lotos of Salem, was, with her cargo, entirely destroyed by fire at Bermuda Hundreds, (James River, Va.) She was loaded with three hundred hds. of tobacco and five hundred bbls. of flour, and was bound to Amsterdam. The Lotos was owned by Capt. Timothy Bryant, of Salem, and Capt. Francis, the master. She was an old vessel, of about three hundred tons. She was insured in the Salt in the Essex office, and the cargo valued at \$30,000, is said by the Richmond Compiler to have been insured in New York and Amsterdam.—Traveller.

Fire in Lowell.—A fire broke out on Thursday, in the basement of the store occupied by Bent & Bush, Hatters, No. 30 Central street, which was a boarding house occupied by Mr. Morgan. The inside of this and the next block, were entirely consumed by fire on Thursday evening. This fire was discovered by Capt. Barrett, of the Watch about 8 o'clock. The fire spread with great rapidity, passing between the furring and wall to the upper stories. This school-house cost the city about \$16,000. Not an article was removed from the school room. One of the dwelling houses burned, was owned and occupied by Milton Howe, insured, \$900. Shop owned by Howe, occupied by Wm. E. Lord, whose loss was about \$150, no insurance. Shop insured \$400 at State Mutual. The other dwelling was owned and occupied by Capt. White, insured \$700. The light of this fire occasioned an alarm in Salem, which brought out the engines.

Ship Lotos of Salem, destroyed by fire.—The ship Lotos of Salem, was, with her cargo, entirely destroyed by fire at Bermuda Hundreds, (James River, Va.) She was loaded with three hundred hds. of tobacco and five hundred bbls. of flour, and was bound to Amsterdam. The Lotos was owned by Capt. Timothy Bryant, of Salem, and Capt. Francis, the master. She was an old vessel, of about three hundred tons. She was insured in the Salt in the Essex office, and the cargo valued at \$30,000, is said by the Richmond Compiler to have been insured in New York and Amsterdam.—Traveller.

Important Law Decision.—The New York Commercial gives an account of a law decision, in that city, of considerable public interest. The case was that of Joseph Blunt vs. Allen Hay—an action to recover damages for injury done to plaintiff's house, by the proximity of a soap and candle factory. Chief Justice Jones, in his charge to the jury, in allusion to the idea that the defendant had located his establishment there, while most of the vicinity was unpopulated, and that those who afterward came into the neighborhood had no right to complain, said that he did not consider the point well taken; and that, in large cities, where the suburbs are in a constant state of progress, from day to day, the proprietors of such establishments are bound to yield, so far as not to permit those establishments to be a nuisance to the general welfare.

Shocking Casualty.—Charles McClure, late Secretary of the Commonwealth, on Thursday night last, in passing to his room in his boarding house in the dark, fell down a back stairs, not used in the winter season, and broke his neck. He was not discovered until Saturday morning, about 11 o'clock, when he was found doubled up, his head bent forward on his breast. He was a man of good education and fine talents, and most respectfully connected, and leaves a family in Cambridge, to mourn his untimely death.

Destructive Fire at Norwich, Ct.—A fire broke out on Norwich on Monday night, in Franklin block, and destroyed the entire row. The following is a list of the principal sufferers: Eason & Co., druggists; Mr. S. A. Downer, hat and furnishing store; Messrs. Holbrook & Co., grocers. The building itself, owned by Mr. Richard Adams, was insured at the Hartford Protection for \$5000, and at Norwich Fire insurance for \$5000 more. Damage done to the Franklin House from \$500 to \$1000, perhaps.

The Fall River Iron Works Company.—During the past summer, have built another mammoth factory, which runs 22,000 spindles. Messrs. N. and J. Durfee have also erected, during the past season, a large steam-mill, to run 10,000 spindles; and the Pocasset manufacturing company have finished an extensive addition to the Quashnet mill, in which they have this season put 6000 additional spindles—which, together with about double the number of spindles, are now running in the factories of Fall River.

Mezzotinto Portrait of Dr. Judson.—Mr. Samuel Waite was sitting in Wilson's drug store, Portland, Me. reading the Argus, when a chemical process was going on which produced an explosion, scattering burning liquid in every direction. The newspaper operated as a shield to

protect that it is his "anxious desire to preserve peace with all nations?" That the Union should be anxious to heal this sore, and should think it unmanly and impolitic to beweep a quarrel to which it is naturally enough. That they should think to stigmatize him with such a strong language, is also in conformity with many examples. But if the decision is to be speedy, it can only be by negotiation, either by reference, or by a recurrence to the method which, in the case of the disputed boundary on our Canadian frontier, proved so entirely successful.

The London Examiner—which advocates extreme liberal opinions—in respect to the Oregon question, remarks:

"When two great nations have come very near to agreeing, and each such very little apart, as between their principals, it would be quite absurd and preposterous to suppose that they could quarrel. Whatever may be thought of our own claims, yet considering the point to which negotiations have proceeded, the next object is to conclude them with honor; and after the full disclosure by the British Government in 1826 and in 1844, the point of view of the two lunatic paupers, which was ordered to a second reading.

Death of Inman, the Painter.—The New York Evening Gazette of the 17th, announced the death of Henry Inman, aged 48. He died at 12 o'clock on Saturday last. Inman was among the most eminent artists of our country. The Gazette says:—"His fame is and will be a part of our national glory, for he was without doubt the first painter of our country, and had few superiors in the world; in portrait painting, perhaps none." His death was occasioned by an organic disease of the heart, with which he has been afflicted for some time.

More Thieving.—Three tubs of butter were stolen from a cellar of the dwelling house of James L. Little, 37 Summer Street, on Monday last. A valuable copper wash-boiler was taken from the new building, No. 8 Albany Street, on Wednesday evening.

Mysterious Circumstance.—On Thursday of last week as two men were sailing down Cooper river in a small boat, their attention was drawn to a coast hawking near the shore, in the vicinity of what is call Drum Island. On approaching the spot their curiosity was excited by perceiving that it was firmly chained to a stake driven in the mud, and on opening the case it was found to contain the remains of a human being packed away. In the case was found a straw basket, containing the hands which appeared to have been chopped off. The head was wanting. The remains were brought to the city yesterday, and a jury empannelled, who returned a verdict in accordance with the above facts, and they could not determine whether the remains were those of a white or black person. The case was attached by a common cart chain, and the whole appeared to have been deposited very recently.

Building in Portland, Me.—The Portland Advertiser states the number of buildings erected in that city during 1845, to have been 156—a less number by 20 than during the year 1844; owing to the elegant and costly style of many of the buildings erected during the past year, the aggregate sum expended in building in 1845, has probably been far greater than during the year 1844.

Manufactures of Boston.—The Boston Journal publishes a statistical table of the manufacturing establishments of this city, from which it appears that the capital invested in manufacturing on the part of the city, has increased by 20 per cent.

First Lord of the Treasury.—Sir Robert Peel, Secretary for the Home Department—Sir J. R. G. Granville—Lord Lyndhurst.

Lord President of the Council.—Duke of Buccleuch.

Commander in Chief—Duke of Wellington.

Secretary for Foreign Affairs—Earl of Aberdeen.

Lord Privy Seal—Earl of Haddington.

President of the Board of Control—Earl of Ripon.

Chancellor of the Exchequer—Rt. Hon. H. Goulburn.

Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster—Lord G. Somers.

Commissioner of Land Revenues—Earl Lincoln.

Secretary at War—Rt. Hon. S. Herbert.

Following are the new members of the Cabinet.

President of the Board of Trade—Earl Dalhousie.

First Lord of the Admiralty—Earl of Ellenborough.

Postmaster General—Earl of St. Germans.

Secretary for the Colonies—Hon. W. Gladstone.

Rumor is busy about the future course of the Government respecting the corn laws, for this is the all-engrossing topic of public interest. There cannot be any reasonable doubt but that those obnoxious laws will be essentially modified, so that the starving millions may get bread at a rate somewhat below the present price in England.

Disasters on the Coast.—A terrible storm occurred on the English coast on the 21st of December, which occasioned great damage and loss of life and property. In the vicinity of the coast of St. Mumble's Head upwards of 40 persons on board a vessel perished, and all hands perished in another wreck. Upwards of 40 vessels were totally lost, and at least 100 human beings perished.

France.—The session of the French Chamber was opened by Louis Philippe, on the 30th of December, by a short speech from the throne. The President's Message reached Paris on the evening of the 23d of December. It does not appear to have created much excitement. The President is somewhat severely handled by some of the public journals.—Traveller.

Fire in Woonsocket.—A destructive fire at Woonsocket, broke out about half past 11 on Thursday night in the cotton factory of G. C. Ballou, which was entirely consumed. A dove house of Mr. J. Rueger was also consumed. An adjoining mill, of E. Harris, took fire and was considerably injured. Loss—Mr. Ballou's, \$25,000, insured \$15,000; Mr. Rueger's \$800, insured \$600; Mr. Harris' \$500. Fire took from a store in the last year to \$9,703.94.

Resolved.—That in the brief acquaintance and connection we have had with Mr. Walter Cook, a member of the House from Richmond, and on his motion a Committee was appointed to consider and report what action the House should take in relation to his death. The committee subsequently reported several resolutions, the first of which was

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The Family Circle.

"O, the sweet atmosphere of peace! how bright
It is to be at home, when we sit together
Under a bower of vine in summer weather,
Or round the heart-stone in a winter's night!"

My Mother's Voice.

My mother's voice! I hear it now!
I feel her hand upon my brow,
As when, in heart-felt joy,
She raised her exulting hymn of praise,
And called down blessings on the days
Of her loved boy.

My mother's voice! It sounds as when
She read to me of holy men.—
The patriarchs of old;
And gazing downward in my face,
She seemed each infant thought to trace,
My young eyes told.

It comes—when thoughts unshelved throng,
Wore in sweet deceptive song.—
And whispers round my heart,
As when, at eve, it rose on high,
I hear, and think that she is nigh,
And they depart.

Though round my heart all, all beside—
The voice of friendship, love, had died,
That voice would linger there,
As when soft pillow'd my infant rest,
Or rose in prayer.

Children.

BY MRS. HARRIET BREWER STOWE.

"A little child shall lead them."

One cold market morning, I looked into a milliner's shop, and there I saw a fair, hearty, well-brown young fellow from the country, with his long cart whip, and long coat, holding up some little matter, and turning it about on his great fist. And what do you suppose it was? A baby's bonnet! A little soft, blue, satin hood, with a swan's-down border, white in the new-fallen snow, with a frill of rich blonde around the edge.

By his side stood a very pretty woman, holding with no small pride the baby—for evidently it was the baby. Any one could read that fact in every glance, as they looked at each other, and at the large blue unconscious eyes, and fat dimpled cheeks of the little one. It was evident that neither of them had even seen a baby like that before!

"But really, Mary," said the young man, "isn't three dollars very high?"

Mary very prudently said nothing, but taking the little bonnet, tied it to the little head, and held up the baby. The man looked, and grimmed, and without another word down went the three dollars—all that the last week's buyer came to; and as they walked out of the shop, it is hard to say which looked most delighted with the bargain.

"Ah," thought I, "a little child shall lead them."

Another day as I was passing a carriage factory along one of our back streets, I saw a young mechanic at work on a wheel. The rough body of a carriage stood beside him—and there, wrapped up snugly, all hooded and cloaked, sat a little dark-eyed girl, about a year old, playing with a great shaggy dog. As I stopped, the man looked up from his work and turned admiringly toward his little companion, as much as to say, "See what I have got here!"

"Yes!" thought I, "and if the little lady ever get a glance from admiring swains as sincere, as that, she will be lucky."

Ah, these children! little witches! pretty, even in all their faults and absurdities! winning! even in their sin and iniquities! See, for example, yonder little fellow in a naughty fit—he has shaken his long curly hair in a front—the roseleaf lip is pursed up in infinite defiance—and the white shoulder thrusts naughtily forward. Can any but a child look so pretty even in their naughtiness?

Then comes the instant change—flashing smiles and tears, as the good come back all in a rush, and you are overwhelmed with protestation, promises and kisses! They are irresistible, too, these little ones! They pull away the scholar's pen—tumble about his papers—litter the carpets—break, pull and upset, and then jibber unimaginable English in self-defence, and what can you do for yourself?

"If I had a child," says the precise man, "you should see."

He does have a child, and his child tears up his papers, tumbles over his things, and pulls at his clothes, like all other children, and what has the precise man to say for himself? Nothing—he is like everybody else—[a little child shall lead him!](#)

Poor little children! they bring and teach us human beings, more good than they get in return! How often does the infant with his soft cheek and helpless hand, awaken a mother from worldiness and egotism, to a whole world of new and higher feeling! How often does the mother repay this, by imparting to his boy all the crooked tricks, and hard ways, and callous maxims which have undone himself.

Go to the jail—to the penitentiary, and find there the wretched most, brutal and hardened. Then look at your infant son. Such as he to you, such to some mother was this man. That hard hand was soft and delicate—that rough voice was tender and lisping—fond eye followed him as he played—and he was rocked and cradled as something holy. There was a time when his heart, soft and unwarmed, might have opened to questionings of God, and Jesus, and been sealed with the seal of Heaven. But harsh hands seized it—fierce, goblin lineaments were impressed upon it—and all is over with him.

So, of the tender, weeping child is made the callous, heartless man—all the abysmal child, the sneering skeptic—the shameless and abandoned—and this is what the world does for the little one.

There was a time when the *Divine One* stood on earth, and little children sought to draw near to him. But harsh human beings stood between him and them, forbidding their approach. Ah! has it not been always so? Do not even, with our hard and unshamed feeling—our worldly and unscriptural habits and maxims—stand like a dark screen between our little child and its Saviour, and keep, even from the choice bud of our hearts, the sweet radiance which might unfold it for paradise? "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbids them not," is still the voice of the Son of God, but the cold world still closes around and forbids. When of old, the disciples would question their Lord of the higher mysteries of his kingdom, he took little child and set him in the midst, as a sign of him who should be greatest in heaven. That gentle teacher still remains to us. By every heart and fireside,

Jesus still sets the little child in the midst of us.

Wouldst thou know, O parent, what is that faith which unlocks heaven? Go not to wrangling polemics, or creeds and forms of theology, but draw to thy bosom thy little one, and read in that clear, trusting eye, the lesson of eternal life. Be only to thy God, as thy child is to thee, and all is done! Blessed shalt thou be, indeed, when "a little child shall lead thee!"

How to Correct a Husband's Faults.

BY FANNY GRAY.

"Now, just look at you, Mr. Jones! I declare! it gives me a chill to see you go to a drawer. What do you want? Tell me, and I will get it."

Mr. Jones springs to the side of her husband, who has gone to the bureau for something, and pushes him away.

"There now! Just look at the hurry's nest you have made. What do you want, Mr. Jones?"

The husband throws an angry look upon his wife; mutters something that she cannot understand, and then turns away and leaves the room.

"It is too bad!" scolds Mrs. Jones to herself, commencing the work of restoring to order the drawer that her husband has thrown all to tatters. "I never saw such a man! He has no kind of order about him; and then, if I speak a word, he goes off in a huff. But I won't have my things forever in confusion."

In the mean time, Mr. Jones, in a pet, leaves the house, and goes to his store without the clean pocket handkerchief, for which he had been in search. Half of the afternoon passes before he gets over his ill-humor, and then he does not feel happy. Mrs. Jones is by no means comfortable in mind. She is really sorry that she spoke so roughly, although she does not acknowledge, even to herself, that she has done wrong, for every now and then, she utters half aloud, some censure against the careless habits of her husband, habits that were really annoying and inexcusable. They had been married five years, and all that time Mrs. Jones had complained, but to no good purpose. Sometimes the husband would get angry, and sometimes he would laugh at his wife, but he made no effort to reform himself.

"Mr. Jones, why will you do so?" said Mrs. Jones, on the evening of the same day. "You are the most trying man alive." "Pity you hadn't a chance to try another," retorted Mr. Jones, sarcastically.

The offence given was a careless overturning of Mrs. Jones' work-basket, and the scattering of needles, cottons, scissors, wax, and a dozen little et ceteras about the floor.

The reply of Mr. Jones hurt his wife. It seemed unkind. He had brought home a new book, which he intended reading, but the face of Mrs. Jones looked so grave after the overturning of the work-basket, that he felt no disposition to read to her, but contented himself by enjoying the book himself.

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"Mr. Jones, why will you do so?" said Mrs. Jones, on the evening of the same day. "You are the most trying man alive."

"Pity you hadn't a chance to try another," retorted Mr. Jones, sarcastically.

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